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Remarks

Claims 2-40 were previously pending in the subject application. By this amendment, the applicants have amended claim 23 and have canceled claims 33-37 and 40. No new subject matter has been added by this amendment. Claim 23 has been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. Support for the amendment to claim 23 can be found throughout the specification including, for example, at paragraph 0047. Accordingly, claims 2-32, 38, and 39 are now before the Examiner for consideration.

The amendments set forth herein should not be interpreted to indicate that the applicants have agreed with, or acquiesced to, the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action. Favorable consideration of the claims now presented, in view of the remarks and amendment set forth herein, is carnestly solicited.

The applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating claims 2-32, 38, and 39 to be allowable.

Claims 33, 34 and 40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Risby et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,248,078). The applicants respectfully submit that the Risby et al. reference neither discloses nor suggests the subject invention. However, as noted above, the applicants have canceled claims 33, 34, and 40, thereby rendering moot the rejection of those claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) is respectfully requested.

Claim 35 and 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Jewett et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,150,670) in view of White et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,003,985). The applicants respectfully submit that neither the Jewett et al. reference nor the White et al., alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the subject invention. However, as noted above, the applicants have canceled claims 35 and 36, thereby rendering moot the rejection of those claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claim 37 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Jewelt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,150,670, in view of White et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,003,985), and further in view of Lewis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,244,096). The applicants respectfully submit that the Jewett et al. reference neither discloses nor suggests the subject invention. However, as noted above, the

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applicants have canceled claim 37, thereby rendering moot the rejection of this claim. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendment, the applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

The applicants also invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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